

2019 coding and billing guidelines for applied behavioral analysis therapy

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) posted the *Louisiana Medicaid Applied Behavioral Analysis Fee Schedule* for 2019 at:

https://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/fee_schedules/ABA_FS_Current.pdf. LDH supplied the guidance/interpretation used in implementing these codes, and the new codes were implemented based on CPT code definitions.

Louisiana Medicaid applied behavioral analysis fee schedule					
Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2019.					
Codes	CPT description	Unit	LBA	SCABA	Tech
97151	Behavior identification assessment, administered by a physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.	\$25		
97151 TF	Behavior identification assessment, administered by a physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.		\$20	
97152	Behavior identification supporting assessment, administered by one technician under direction of a physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.			\$11.50
97153 HN	Adaptive behavior treatment by protocol, administered by technician under the direction of a physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.			\$11.50
97153	Adaptive behavior treatment by protocol, administered by technician under the direction of a physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.			\$9.50
97154	Group adaptive behavior treatment by protocol, administered by technician under the direction of a physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.			\$4.50
97155	Adaptive behavior treatment with protocol modification, administered by physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.	\$22.50		
97155 TF	Adaptive behavior treatment with protocol modification, administered by physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.		\$17.50	

<https://providers.healthybluelouisiana.com>

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Louisiana Medicaid ABA Fee Schedule					
Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2019					
Codes	CPT description	Unit	LBA	SCABA	Tech
97156	Family adaptive behavior treatment guidance, administered by physician or other qualified health care professional (with or without the patient present)	15 min.	\$22.50		
97157	Multiple-family group adaptive behavior treatment guidance, administered by physician or other qualified health care professional (without the patient present)	15 min.	\$9		
97158	Group adaptive treatment with protocol modification, administered by physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.	\$10		
97158 TF	Group adaptive treatment with protocol modification, administered by physician or other qualified health care professional	15 min.		\$7.50	

Unit description:

- The units of service billed do not require a full 15 minutes of time spent on actual service delivery to be billed as a unit.
- For billing of a 15 minute unit, 10 minutes or more of services must be provided for the unit of service.

Modifier descriptions:

- HN — Bachelor's Degree level
- TF — Intermediate level of care

Use of modifiers:

- Modifiers should be used in billing to reflect the credentials of staff delivering services and allow for proper claims payment.

Reminders on assessment codes

- Ensure the new assessment codes (97151 and 97152) are being properly treated as they differ from previous assessment codes.
 - With the new codes, there is only one assessment code (97151); This code should be used for initial and follow-up assessments.
- Behavior identification assessment (0359T) was listed on the past fee schedule as one untimed unit at \$400.
 - Converted units should equal 16 total 15-minute units for four hours of assessment time.
 - When implemented in 2017, the code was originally set at one-hour units payable, \$100 an hour, with a soft cap of four units or more if medically necessary.
 - Therefore, as of January 1, 2019, 97151 will have a soft cap of 16 units with more units approved if medically necessary.

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at **1-844-521-6942**.